

Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1-7. (Cancelled).

8. (Previously presented) A method for encoding information symbols onto a host signal, comprising the steps of:

creating an auxiliary information carrier, wherein said auxiliary information carrier is comprised of a plurality of signal components having varying amounts of delay or offset from each other;

determining a value of an auxiliary information signal representing an information symbol;

calculating a value of said auxiliary information carrier corresponding to said determined value of said auxiliary information signal according to a predefined relationship between auxiliary information signal value and auxiliary information carrier;

developing a host modifying signal for modifying said host signal based upon said calculated value; and

modifying said host signal with said host modifying signal;

wherein said auxiliary information carrier comprises multiple distinct frequency bands.

9. (Original) The method according to claim 8, wherein said auxiliary information carrier comprises one or more frequency components within at least one of said frequency bands.

10. (Previously presented) A method for encoding information symbols onto a host signal, comprising the steps of:

creating an auxiliary information carrier, wherein said auxiliary information carrier is comprised of a plurality of signal components having varying amounts of delay or offset from each other;

determining a value of an auxiliary information signal representing an information symbol;

calculating a value of said auxiliary information carrier corresponding to said determined value of said auxiliary information signal according to a predefined relationship between auxiliary information signal value and auxiliary information carrier;

developing a host modifying signal for modifying said host signal based upon said calculated value; and

modifying said host signal with said host modifying signal;

wherein said calculated value comprises a fixed gain value of said auxiliary information carrier.

11. (Previously presented) The method according to claim 10, wherein a polarity of said fixed gain value is determined in accordance with the value of said auxiliary information signal.

12. (Previously presented) A method for encoding information symbols onto a host signal, comprising the steps of:

creating an auxiliary information carrier, wherein said auxiliary information carrier is comprised of a plurality of signal components having varying amounts of delay or offset from each other;

determining a value of an auxiliary information signal representing an information symbol;

calculating a value of said auxiliary information carrier corresponding to said determined value of said auxiliary information signal according to a predefined relationship between auxiliary information signal value and auxiliary information carrier;

developing a host modifying signal for modifying said host signal based upon said

calculated value; and

modifying said host signal with said host modifying signal;

wherein said information symbols identify said host signal.

13. (Previously presented) A method for encoding information symbols onto a host signal, comprising the steps of:

creating an auxiliary information carrier, wherein said auxiliary information carrier is comprised of a plurality of signal components having varying amounts of delay or offset from each other;

determining a value of an auxiliary information signal representing an information symbol;

calculating a value of said auxiliary information carrier corresponding to said determined value of said auxiliary information signal according to a predefined relationship between auxiliary information signal value and auxiliary information carrier;

developing a host modifying signal for modifying said host signal based upon said calculated value; and

modifying said host signal with said host modifying signal;

wherein said information symbols comprise copyright information associated with said host signal.

14. (Previously presented) A method for encoding information symbols onto a host signal, comprising the steps of:

creating an auxiliary information carrier, wherein said auxiliary information carrier is comprised of a plurality of signal components having varying amounts of delay or offset from each other;

determining a value of an auxiliary information signal representing an information symbol;

calculating a value of said auxiliary information carrier corresponding to said determined value of said auxiliary information signal according to a predefined relationship between auxiliary information signal value and auxiliary information carrier;

developing a host modifying signal for modifying said host signal based upon said calculated value; and

modifying said host signal with said host modifying signal;

wherein said information symbols identify attribute of said host signal.

15. (Original) The method according to claim 14, wherein said attribute comprises copy management rules associated with said host signal.

16. (Original) The method according to claim 14, wherein said attribute comprises usage control rules associated with said host signal.

17. (Original) The method according to claim 14, wherein said attribute comprises distribution control rules associated with said host signal.

18. (Previously presented) A method for encoding information symbols onto a host signal, comprising the steps of:

creating an auxiliary information carrier, wherein said auxiliary information carrier is comprised of a plurality of signal components having varying amounts of delay or offset from each other;

determining a value of auxiliary information signal representing an information symbol;

calculating a value of said auxiliary information carrier corresponding to said determined value of said auxiliary information signal according to a predefined relationship between auxiliary information signal value and auxiliary information carrier;

developing a host modifying signal for modifying said host signal based upon said calculated value; and

modifying said host signal with said host modifying signal;

wherein said host signal is stored on a physical medium subsequent to said modifying.

19. (Previously presented) A method for encoding information symbols onto a host signal, comprising the steps of:

creating an auxiliary information carrier, wherein said auxiliary information carrier is comprised of a plurality of signal components having varying amounts of delay or offset from each other;

determining a value of auxiliary information signal representing an information symbol;

calculating a value of said auxiliary information carrier corresponding to said determined value of said auxiliary information signal according to a predefined relationship between auxiliary information signal value and auxiliary information carrier;

developing a host modifying signal for modifying said host signal based upon said calculated value; and

modifying said host signal with said host modifying signal;

wherein said host signal is distributed by least one of radio wave transmission and wired transmission subsequent to said modifying.

20. (Previously presented) A method for encoding information symbols onto a host signal, comprising:

providing an information carrier signal comprising one or more features of said host signal, said one or more features comprising at least one of filtered, masked, or shifted versions of said host signal;

determining a value of auxiliary information signal representing an information symbol;

calculating one or more values for modifying said information carrier signal in accordance with said auxiliary information symbol;

developing a host modifying signal for modifying said host signal based upon said calculated values; and

modifying said host signal with said host modifying signal.

21. (Previously presented) The method of claim 25, wherein said features comprise at least one of filtered, masked, or shifted versions of said host signal.

22. (Previously presented) The method of claim 20, wherein said features are determined in at least one of time, frequency, or space domains.

23. (Previously presented) The method of claim 20, wherein said host modifying signal comprises a plurality of signal components having varying amounts of delay or offset from each other.

24. (Previously presented) The method of claim 23, wherein the amount of delay or offset associated with said plurality of signal components is adapted in accordance with said auxiliary information symbols.

25. (Previously presented) A method for encoding information symbols onto a host signal, comprising:

providing an information carrier signal comprising one or more features of said host signal;

determining a value of an auxiliary information signal representing an information symbol;

calculating one or more values for modifying said information carrier signal in accordance with said auxiliary information symbol;

developing a host modifying signal for modifying said host signal based upon
said calculated values; and
modifying said host signal with said host modifying signal;
wherein said host modifying signal is obtained by modulating at least one of the
amplitude or phase of the host signal.

26. (Previously presented) The method of claims 20, wherein said modifying step is carried out
in an analog domain.

27-38. (Cancelled).